

# Northeast Area

Action Plan for 2000



# Northeast Area

## Action Plan for 2000

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April, 2000

*If you have questions or comments about this document or if you would like to obtain a copy, please visit the new office website at [www.columbusinfobase.org](http://www.columbusinfobase.org) or contact David Hall at the Planning Office – 614.645.6556.*





## A Word from the Mayor

May 2000

Dear Citizens:

The new *Northeast Area Action Plan* is the result of a cooperative effort between the city of Columbus, residents and neighborhood groups like the Northeast Area Commission. Together, we recognized the need for a strategic plan to help our neighborhoods deal with growth and prepare for the future. This document is designed to serve as a guide to improving our neighborhoods over the coming months and years.

The Northeast Area Action Plan will complement the 1994 *Northeast Area Plan* and further focus the 1999 Community Goals and Objectives Report for the northeast area. The new plan addresses six specific priority issues: economic development, neighborhood policing opportunities, the development of recreational facilities and parkland, public transportation, and effective community communication. Each of these issues impacts the quality of life of our families, and the future viability of our neighborhoods.

I want to thank everyone involved in the creation of the *Northeast Area Action Plan*, and ask that you continue to be a part of our on-going efforts to build a stronger, safer Columbus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MBC', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael B. Coleman  
Mayor

## Acknowledgements

The preparation of this document was made possible through generous contributions of time and effort from many individuals, groups and organizations. The members of the Northeast Area Commission's (NEAC) Planning Committee wish to thank Unity Partnership and Omni Management for the use of the Unity Resource Center and extend their sincere appreciation to the following participants that advanced, guided, and supported the development of the *Northeast Area Action Plan for 2000*:

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*Member, NEAC*

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*Framingham District, NEAC*

Jean Rayford  
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*Willow Springs District, NEAC*

Jim Simpson  
*Somerset District, NEAC*

Ronald Steward  
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*City of Columbus, Recreation and Parks*

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- *Connect parkland together with sidewalks and/or bike paths.*
- *Reserve land for park development.*
- *Further develop parkland towards Innis Road.*
- *Develop parkland in residential areas.*
- *Provide public access to Alum Creek.*
- *Develop a linear, multi-use trail along Alum Creek connecting community parks and learning centers.*

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- *Provide Park and Ride stops strategically located within the community that are convenient to all residents.*
- *Coordinate with Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) to ensure adequate access to local buses.*
- *Encourage COTA neighborhood circulator buses.*

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- *Create and distribute a Northeast Area community newsletter.*
- *Encourage coordination between the City and County on community issues (e.g. zoning).*
- *Build better interchurch communication.*
- *Ensure that each neighborhood is represented on all NEAC committees.*
- *Provide information to residents concerning the responsibilities of the fire stations that serve the area.*

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## Introduction

The Year 2000 Action Plan, as the name implies, is a blueprint for action. It is a “results oriented” document that can help residents, business owners, groups, organizations and local civic leaders to effect positive changes in their neighborhoods and improve quality of life in the Northeast Area. The plan has been designed to complement two other planning documents: the 1994 *Northeast Area Plan*, and the 1999 *Community Goals and Objectives* report that resulted from the 1999 Community Workshop.

### Northeast Area Plan



Easton Town Center



Alum Creek

In the early 1990's, the Northeast Area Commission and the city of Columbus Planning Office began to work cooperatively with community residents, neighborhood groups, churches, civic associations, local business owners and Franklin County officials to develop a *Northeast Area Plan*. The effort was undertaken to set policies for growth and redevelopment in the Northeast Area of Columbus. In 1994, the process was completed and the *Northeast Area Plan* was approved by City Council. The Plan addresses numerous issues that impact quality of life in the Northeast Area, such as infrastructure, housing, emergency services, utilities, transportation and traffic circulation, economic development, environmental protection, land use and recreation. It includes specific recommendations that guide decision-makers in their review of development proposals and permit applications. Members of the Northeast Area Commission, the Board of Zoning Adjustment, the Development Commission, and the Columbus City Council all use the document as a resource to ensure that new development will be consistent with the community's vision for the area and an asset to the City of Columbus. The Plan, however, is also an important historical document. In the coming years, as new trends, issues and challenges emerge, it will provide area residents and community leaders with a solid foundation upon which to build the next *Northeast Area Plan*.



## 1999 Community Workshop

In February of 1999, the Northeast Area Commission sponsored a community workshop to take a fresh look at issues affecting the Northeast Area. Recognizing that rapid growth was putting pressure on resources and infrastructure, the commission invited neighborhood groups and area residents to voice their concerns and develop a series of goals and objectives. The workshop was a success, and numerous recommendations were made. The Northeast Area Commission compiled this information into a report - the *1999 Community Goals and Objectives* document that was distributed to city staff, area commission members, workshop participants, local businesses, and northeast area residents.

## The Action Plan Process

Despite the many changes that are occurring in the Northeast Area, the community has a solid understanding of where it has been and where it wants to go. The recommendations contained in the 1994 plan and the goals and objectives identified through the 1999 workshop clearly indicate what issues are important to the community, and what needs have not been met.

In January 2000, the planning committee of the Northeast Area Commission hosted a special community meeting to build upon the work that had been done and develop a "work program" for the year 2000. Invitations were extended to the area commission members, civic association representatives, community leaders and local residents. Using the goals contained in the 1994 Plan and the goals and objectives identified through the 1999 community workshop as a foundation, the participants identified six priority issues. These priorities represented the starting point for the Action Plan process, and the beginning of a focused effort to create some positive community momentum.



### Priorities:

1. Provide economic development assistance for the community.
2. Establish a community policing program.
3. Develop recreational facilities to accommodate the needs of the community.
4. Develop adequate and appropriate parkland for both active and passive uses.
5. Provide better access to public transportation.
6. Develop effective community communication tools.

For approximately three months, the planning committee met every other week to develop an *Action Plan* – a plan that describes what actions need to be taken, who will do them, and when they will be done. Through conversations with area residents and community leaders, through input from a wide variety of professionals with relevant expertise, and through the careful consideration of many alternatives, the committee ultimately drafted a series of simple “hands-on” strategies that directly address quality of life in the Northeast Area.

By itself, the *Northeast Area Action Plan* is merely a tool. With support and active citizen participation, however, some powerful changes can take place. Good things are already happening - and as residents, businesses, community groups, and the City of Columbus work together to implement the recommendations contained in this document, good Northeast Area neighborhoods will become even better.

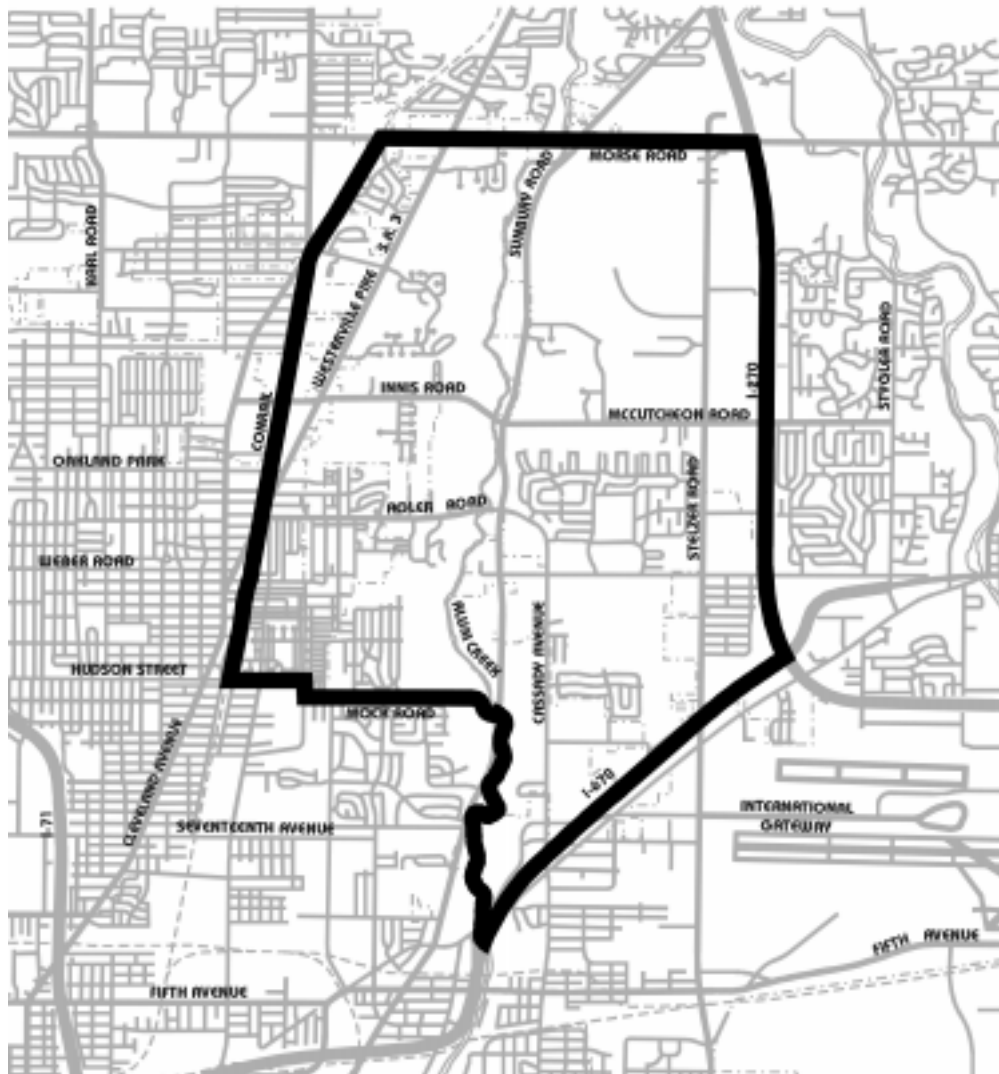
#### Northeast Area Commission

With regard to this *Action Plan*, the Northeast Area Commission (NEAC) will initially take the lead role in coordinating the various steps necessary for implementation. The Commission members have been actively involved in the *Action Plan* process and they have a good working knowledge of the issues and challenges that are confronting residents and stakeholders in the Northeast Area. Over time, however, a new or existing non-profit organization may assume some of the daily responsibilities. Such an entity could assist the Commission with project development and supervision, event planning, promotion, and it could serve as a conduit for corporate donations, private contributions and grant funding. The organization might also help to connect area residents with resources and programs, city staff, and elected and appointed officials.



Sunbury Road

## Northeast Area Commission Boundaries



## Goal 1

Provide economic development assistance for the community.



**Objective 1:** Facilitate private-public partnerships to foster neighborhood economic development.

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- Action:** Establish an entity (such as a nonprofit organization) to mediate private-public partnerships, thus providing entrée for small businesses.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will select an individual or organization within the community that has the capacity and desire to take this lead role. Alternatively, in the event that an existing organization cannot assume this responsibility, the Commission will take the necessary steps to create a new organization or nonprofit corporation.
- When:** Begin the search for candidates immediately.
- .....

- Action:** Create an informational brochure to link small business owners with existing loan opportunities, incentive programs, business development workshops, and resource information. Distribute the brochures to churches, civic associations, business associations, and residents via bag service (Columbus Dispatch) or in tandem with the community newsletter. The brochure should include descriptions and contact information for all city, state, and federal programs, including:

**The Business Development Fund**

Contact: City of Columbus Economic Development Division

**The Working Capital Loan Program**

Contact: City of Columbus Economic Development Division

**Tax Incentives and Abatements**

Contact: City of Columbus, Business Development Office

**Columbus/Franklin County MicroLoan Program**

Contact: Office @ 614.645.8583

**Chamber of Commerce – Small Business Development Center**

Contact: Office @ 614.225.6910

**U.S. Small Business Administration**

Contact: Wanda Corner @ 614.469.6860

**Columbus Countywide Development Corporation**

Contact: Andrea Brockelhurst @ 645-6171

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will designate an area commission member or a civic association representative to solicit student help through an internship program at The Ohio State University.

**When:** Begin work immediately.

**Objective 2:** Promote redevelopment of existing commercial sites as an alternative to demolition, or the build out of open space areas.

---

**Action:** Identify vacant and abandoned commercial properties that have redevelopment potential and check the existing zoning classifications. If the desired sites do not have an appropriate commercial or industrial zoning classification, encourage the property owners to improve the property's marketability by applying for a rezoning.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will invite area residents and business owners to recommend sites for consideration at Northeast Area Commission meetings. Civic association representatives will be asked to tour portions of the Northeast Area and inventory properties with potential. The Commission's zoning chairman will be appointed as a liaison to meet with property owners, discuss options for redevelopment, and encourage rezonings where appropriate.

**When:** Ongoing.

**Objective 3:** Increase procurement opportunities for neighborhood businesses.

---

**Action:** Provide access to procurement opportunities through promotion of the city's *Equal Business Opportunity Commission Office* (EBOCO), and the *Resource Ohio* program at [www.resourceohio.com](http://www.resourceohio.com). Lobby the Ohio Department of Development for advertisement of the website on local radio stations and in local newspapers. Notify area businesses of the EBOCO and the *Resource Ohio* program through the preparation and distribution of the informational brochure referenced in Objective 1.

**Who:** Area commission members, collectively, should lobby the Ohio Department of Development for promotion of the website. The Northeast Area Commission will select a volunteer to obtain more information about the EBOCO and the *Resource Ohio* program and assist in the preparation of the brochure. The staff of the community newsletter will also include program and contact information in an issue of the newsletter.

**When:** Lobby the Ohio Department of Development and begin work on the brochure immediately.

**Objective 4:** Recruit and retain businesses that serve the neighborhood.

---

**Action:** Model the “Business After Hours” program conducted by the Chamber of Commerce to facilitate networking and business promotion. Sponsor informal evening receptions, four times per year, for working professionals and local business owners. Encourage them to share concerns, questions and needs with area commission members.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will appoint a team of three volunteers to coordinate the quarterly events and seek assistance through the Chamber of Commerce.

**When:** Begin coordination immediately. Plan the first event for June of 2000; follow up with subsequent events in September, December, and March.

**Objective 5:** Assess the need and viability for local commercial uses (e.g. a market study).

---

**Action:** Hire a Columbus-based firm to perform a detailed market study for the Northeast Area. Request funding assistance through the United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, area business associations and/or a corporate sponsor, such as Easton. Present findings to small business owners and area residents at a special meeting of the Northeast Area Commission. Distribute additional copies of the final document to local business associations, civic associations, churches, and community centers.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will select a local business association to define the scope of work, solicit contract proposals from local market research companies, and supervise the completion of the study. Copies of the market study will be distributed through volunteers.

**When:** Begin contacting prospective business associations immediately.

## Goal 2

Establish a community policing program.





**Objective 1:** Implement proven models for safe neighborhood strategies.

---

- Action:** Lobby the Community Crime Patrol (CCP) for expansion of their service area to include the neighborhoods west of Sunbury Road, North of Mock Road, and South of Innis Road. Circulate a petition within each neighborhood and obtain signatures from at least 200 residents. Present the signed petition to CCP and to each member of City Council.
- Who:** Neighborhood and civic associations will appoint two representatives from each neighborhood to coordinate the petition drive and present the request to CCP.
- When:** Circulate the petition in January of 2001.
- .....

- Action:** Establish additional block watch programs with assistance from the city's Community Liaison Officer for the 7<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Provide contact information and encourage participation in the programs through articles and announcements in the community newsletter.
- Who:** Representatives from neighborhood and civic associations will coordinate the new block watches with residents and the community liaison officer.
- When:** Begin immediately.

## Goal 3

Develop recreational facilities to accommodate the needs of the community.



**Objective 1:** Support recreational activities and programs by taking a needs assessment.

---

- Action:** Obtain a consultant to conduct research on recreational activities and programming needs in the Northeast Area. Submit findings to the Northeast Area Commission, the city's Recreation and Parks Department, and the members of City Council. Seek funding for (if necessary) for the study through the Columbus Foundation's Neighborhood Partnership Grant or a corporate sponsorship. As an alternative, offer the project to faculty or graduate students affiliated with The Ohio State University.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will appoint a volunteer or an appropriate nonprofit organization to develop the project guidelines, obtain funding, and collaborate with the consultant until all work has been completed.
- When:** Begin the search for a volunteer or an appropriate nonprofit organization immediately.

**Objective 2:** Install a swimming pool near the recreation center.

---

- Action:** Prepare and conduct a community-wide survey to ensure there is adequate public interest. Supplement this action by gathering all data that may be necessary to determine programming needs, project viability, and options for funding.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will: 1) request assistance from civic associations in the preparation and distribution of the survey; 2) seek a cost/benefit analysis or a feasibility study through the Recreation and Parks Department, The Ohio State University, or an independent consultant.
- When:** Seek participation from civic associations immediately; contact the Recreation and Parks Department, OSU or a consultant when the survey has been completed.

**Objective 3:** Expand the Northeast Recreation Center.

---

- Action:** Investigate options for an expansion of the building; develop a series of design alternatives. Generate a detailed report with an itemized cost estimate for each alternative, distribute the report to neighborhood civic associations, area residents, business and churches for comment.

Present the report and community preferences to the city's Recreation and Parks Department and the members of City Council.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will seek volunteer assistance from the Recreation Center staff and a local architect.

**When:** Seek assistance from the Recreation Center staff immediately.

**Objective 4:** Build a fully-functioning multi-sport facility with programs dedicated to youth and seniors.

---

**Action:** Begin the process by identifying vacant land and/or underdeveloped property that might be suitable for a new facility, such as the Innis Road property adjacent to Bridgeview Estates.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will establish a small working committee comprised of Northeast Recreation Center personnel, Recreation and Parks Department staff, representatives from the Youth with Dreams Foundation.

**When:** Establish the working committee immediately.

.....

**Action:** Prioritize sites, investigate property acquisition alternatives. Contact property owners and involve them in the preliminary discussions.

**Who:** The working committee.

**When:** Ongoing.

.....

**Action:** Work with a professional architect or civil engineer to define the project parameters and prepare some conceptual design studies.

**Who:** The working committee, in collaboration with a professional architect or civil engineer. As an alternative, contact the Knowlton School of Architecture at The Ohio State University and recommend the project as a design studio assignment.

**When:** Begin the design studies when site(s) have been selected.

**Objective 5:** Renovate the Mifflin Middle School stadium and the surrounding campus.

---

**Action:** Renovation of the structure is already in progress. Encourage completion of the two remaining projects: reconstruction of the track and replacement of the fence.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will appoint volunteers to contact the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and the Columbus School Board.

**When:** Ongoing.

## Goal 4

Develop adequate and appropriate parkland for both passive and active uses.



**Objective 1:** Encourage developers to donate land and/or money to the city to buy land for parkland dedication within the community.

---

**Action:** Support the Parkland Dedication Ordinance adopted by City Council. Encourage developers and/or applicants to donate property with environmental, scenic, historic, or recreational value when zoning or council variance cases are reviewed by the Northeast Area Commission.

**Who:** Northeast Area Commission.

**When:** Immediately / Ongoing.

**Objective 2:** Connect parklands together with sidewalks and/or bike paths.

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**Action:** Work with the Recreation and Parks Department to plan potential trail routes and prioritize project areas. Where right-of-ways or easements do not already exist, contact property owners and request a small donation of land. As an alternative, seek funding for the purchase of right-of-way or the establishment of an access easement through the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) or a Neighborhood Partnership Grant offered by the Columbus Foundation.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will select an individual or an appropriate nonprofit organization to coordinate the project, seek funding, negotiate with property owners, and serve as a liaison to the city's Recreation and Parks Department staff.

**When:** Select the individual or organization immediately.

.....

**Action:** Where right-of-way and/or access easements exist, contact the city's Recreation and Parks Department and recommend the project(s) for inclusion in the city's Capital Improvements Program. As an alternative, seek funding for sidewalk and bike path construction through the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF), a program managed by the city's Division of Housing and Community Services, or apply for the Neighborhood Partnership Grant offered by the Columbus Foundation.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will select an individual or an appropriate nonprofit organization to coordinate the project, seek funding, negotiate with property owners, and serve as a liaison to the city's Recreation and Parks Department staff.

**When:** Select the individual or organization immediately.

**Objective 3:** Reserve land for park development.

---

**Action:** Inventory open space properties with significant recreational potential or parkland value that are suitable for both passive and active uses. Contact the property owners, submit a request for the donation of land or the dedication of an easement. As an alternative, seek funding for the purchase of property through the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF), a program managed by the city's Division of Housing and Community Services, or apply for the Neighborhood Partnership Grant offered by the Columbus Foundation. Seek park planning assistance through the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

**Who:** Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries (FACT), the Youth with Dreams Foundation, and/or the city's Recreation and Parks Department will complete the inventory. The Northeast Area Commission will select an individual or an appropriate nonprofit organization to seek funding, negotiate with property owners, and serve as a liaison to the city's Recreation and Parks Department staff.

**When:** Begin by identifying potential properties during the summer of 2000.

**Objective 4:** Further develop parkland towards Innis Road.

---

**Action:** Contact property owners, submit a request for the donation of land or the dedication of an easement to the City of Columbus. As an alternative, seek funds to purchase the property through the Columbus Foundation (Neighborhood Partnership Grant).

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will request help from the city's Recreation and Parks Department or an appropriate nonprofit organization. As an alternative, the Commission may appoint an area resident or an Ohio State University student to contact the property owners and prepare the Neighborhood Partnership Grant application, if necessary.

**When:** Seek assistance from the Recreation and Parks Department immediately.



**Objective 5:** Develop parkland in residential areas.

---

- Action:** Contact the city's Recreation and Parks Department; request a study to determine parkland needs within and around existing Northeast Area neighborhoods. Assign priority status to residential areas that lack adequate parkland, take inventory of undeveloped parcels with recreational potential. Follow up with the action step(s) recommended for Objective 4, above.
- Who:** City Recreation and Parks Department.
- When:** Submit the request for assistance immediately.

**Objective 6:** Provide public access to Alum Creek.

---

- Action:** Investigate potential locations for trailheads and identify areas where an access point is needed. Coordinate the effort with the city's Recreation and Parks Department.
- Who:** Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries.
- When:** Begin work during the summer of 2000.

**Objective 7:** Develop a linear, multi-use trail along Alum Creek connecting community parks and learning centers.

---

- Action:** Support the Alum Creek Trail project already in progress; participate in the public meetings to be conducted by the city's Recreation and Parks Department.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will invite area residents and neighborhood representatives to attend the public meetings and submit recommendations and concerns directly to the city's Recreation and Parks Department staff. Northeast Area Commission members will publicly endorse the project and maintain contact with City Council members.
- When:** The project is underway. Monitor progress and advocate participation in workshops and/or public meetings as they occur.
- .....

**Action:** Lobby the City Council to implement its greenways policies; support the adoption and enforcement of the *Watercourse Zoning Overlay* through direct contact with City Council members and their staff.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission and civic association representatives.

**When:** Ongoing.

## Goal 5

Provide better access to public transportation.



**Objective 1:** Provide Park and Ride stops strategically located within the community that are convenient to all residents.

---

- Action:** Survey COTA riders that live or work within the Northeast Area, identify population concentrations that would benefit from an additional Park and Ride stop. Monitor development patterns and trends; develop a long-range plan for additional Park and Ride stops between the existing Linden Transit Center on Cleveland Avenue and the new suburban transit center planned for Stelzer Road.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will lobby COTA for the completion of a survey. The Commission will also appoint a liaison to meet with the Central Ohio Transit Authority four times per year, encourage the open exchange of information, and work with COTA to anticipate future needs.
- When:** Begin immediately / ongoing.

**Objective 2:** Coordinate with Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) to ensure adequate resident access to local buses.

---

- Action:** Obtain copies of route schedules and maps from COTA, prepare a mailing list of local business and civic associations, community groups, churches and recreation centers, distribute the materials annually. Lobby COTA for the installation of informational kiosks at all bus shelters.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission's liaison, as referenced in Objective 1.
- When:** Begin immediately, send out updated information in January of each year.

**Objective 3:** Encourage COTA neighborhood circulator buses.

---

- Action:** Survey COTA riders that live or work within the Northeast Area, evaluate the need for additional circulator service. Ask COTA to monitor development patterns and trends and draft a long-range plan for additional circulator routes that link residential neighborhoods with employment centers and major shopping destinations.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will lobby COTA for the completion of the survey through the liaison, as referenced in Objective 1.
- When:** Begin immediately / ongoing.

## Goal 6

Develop effective community communication tools.



**Objective 1:** Create and distribute a Northeast Area community newsletter.

---

- Action:** Draft a mission for the publication, prepare a business plan that identifies:
- a) the publishing organization
  - b) general format, content and structure
  - c) equipment and resources that will be necessary
  - d) staffing needs
  - e) budget projections
  - f) funding sources
  - g) a circulation / distribution strategy
- Consider modeling the newsletters currently published by the Greater Linden Development Corporation (*Greater Linden News*) and the Somerset Civic Association. Meet with other nonprofit organizations that publish newsletters and/or monthly publications and seek their assistance.
- Who:** The Northeast Area Commission will assemble a committee of volunteers to conduct the necessary research and meet with the public relations staff of the Greater Linden Development Corporation. As an alternative, the Commission may offer the project to an existing local organization such as the Somerset Civic Association or the Framingham Civic Association.
- When:** Begin to assemble the committee immediately.

- 
- Action:** Seek funding for the publishing organization and the newsletter through donations, corporate sponsorships, and the Columbus Foundation (Neighborhood Partnership Grant). Prepare and distribute a survey to local business owners, generate an estimate of anticipated advertising revenue.
- Who:** The volunteer committee or an existing organization, such as the Somerset Civic Association or Framingham Civic Association.
- When:** Begin work upon completion of the business plan.

**Objective 2:** Encourage coordination between the city and county on community issues such as zoning.

---

**Action:** Invite the county zoning staff to attend the Northeast Area Commission's zoning committee meetings. Prepare and distribute an annual meeting schedule to the Franklin County Development Department. Contact the county zoning staff by phone when pending development cases involve property that lies contiguous to unincorporated land. Encourage the Franklin County Development Department to adopt similar policies and procedures.

**Who:** Zoning Committee of the Northeast Area Commission.

**When:** Begin immediately / ongoing. Send out meeting schedules in January of each year.

---

**Action:** Incorporate the action step outlined above in the written policies and procedures of the Northeast Area Commission's zoning committee. Ensure that all zoning committee members have contact information for the Franklin County Development Department.

**Who:** Zoning Committee of the Northeast Area Commission.

**When:** Immediately.

**Objective 3:** Build better church intercommunication.

---

**Action:** Invite local church leaders to attend the Northeast Area Commission meetings in January and July of each calendar year; host a special "after hours" reception to encourage dialogue and promote cooperation and partnership.

**Who:** The Northeast Area Commission.

**When:** Coordinate the events semi-annually, send out invitations at least one month in advance.

**Objective 4:** Ensure that each neighborhood is represented on all NEAC committees.

---

**Action:** Distribute committee membership rosters to all Northeast Area civic associations at the beginning of each calendar year. Include a brief description of each committee and identify vacancies / opportunities for membership. Enclose application forms with contact information to encourage participation.

**Who:** Northeast Area Commission.

**When:** Begin in January of 2001 / ongoing.

**Objective 5:** Provide information to residents concerning the responsibilities of the fire stations that serve the area.

---

**Action:** Prepare an informational brochure with a map that illustrates precinct boundaries. Distribute to area civic associations, churches, local businesses and organizations in tandem with the Northeast Area newsletter through bulk mail, Columbus Dispatch bag service or door-to-door delivery. Follow up by publishing portions of the brochure text and map in a subsequent issue of the Northeast Area newsletter.

**Who:** Assign the task to the newsletter staff.

**When:** Defer until the newsletter publishing organization has been established.



## Appendix

### Area Civic Associations

Agler Green Cooperative Contact: Ann Sims.....	Phone:
Arlington Park Civic Association Contact: Ellen Thompson.....	Phone: 475-5018
Bridgeview Civic Association Contact: Clark Baltzell.....	Phone: 476-4444
Brunswick Estates Contact: Trudy Singer.....	Phone:
Cumberland Ridge Civic Association Contact: Glenn Rollins.....	Phone:
Framingham Civic Association Contact: Lonnie Morgan.....	Phone: 475-0868
Somerset Civic Association Contact: Jean Rayford.....	Phone: 261-7003
Walnut Creek Civic Association Contact: Alvin Rhodes.....	Phone: 471-5886
Willow Springs Civic Association Contact: Larzell Henry.....	Phone: 475-4321

### City of Columbus

Adult sports.....	Phone: 645-3366
AIDS Counseling and Testing.....	Phone: 645-7772
Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.....	Phone: 645-7306
Animal Bites.....	Phone: 645-6134
Animals (dead).....	Phone: 645-5966
Animals (running loose).....	Phone: 462-3400 (Warden)
Birth and Death Certificates.....	Phone: 645-7333
Block Watch Information.....	Phone: 645-4610
Bulk Refuse Pick-up.....	Phone: 645-TRSH (8774)
Building and Development Services.....	Phone: 645-7314

FIRSTLINK (24 hour human services referrals).....	Phone: 221-2255
City Attorney.....	Phone: 645-7385
City Council.....	Phone: 645-7380
City Prosecutor (criminal).....	Phone: 645-7483
City Treasurer.....	Phone: 645-7727
Civil Service.....	Phone: 645-8300
Civil Service (job vacancies).....	Phone: 645-7667
Code Enforcement.....	Phone: 645-8139
Community Services.....	Phone: 645-7795
Compost and Fertilizer (Comtil).....	Phone: 645-3152
CORRS (Central Ohio Radio Reading Service).....	Phone: 274-7650
Crack Hotline (drugs).....	Phone: 645-4850
Crime Stoppers Anonymous.....	Phone: 645-TIPS (8477)
Cultural Arts Center.....	Phone: 645-7047
Electricity (turn-on/turn off service).....	Phone: 645-7360
Electricity (24 hour repair).....	Phone: 645-7627
Environmental Health/Inspection.....	Phone: 645-8191
Fire/Medical Emergency.....	Phone: 911 or 221-2345
Garbage Collection.....	Phone: 645-TRSH (8774)
Gun Turn-in.....	Phone: 645-GUNS (4867)
Health Department (information).....	Phone: 645-7417
Housing Inspection.....	Phone: 645-8139
Income Tax Division.....	Phone: 645-7646 or 7370
Information (city operator).....	Phone: 645-8100
Junk Cars on Private Property.....	Phone: 645-8139
Junk Cars on Public Property.....	Phone: 645-CARS (2277)
Library.....	Phone: 645-2800
Mayor's Action Center.....	Phone: 645-CITY (2489)

Parking Permits.....	Phone: 645-7790
Parking Violations.....	Phone: 645-6400
Police (emergency).....	Phone: 911
Police (non-emergency).....	Phone: 645-4545
Police Complaints and Praise.....	Phone: 645-COPS (2677)
Police (crime prevention).....	Phone: 645-4610
Pothole Repair.....	Phone: 645-5660
Recreation and Park Permits.....	Phone: 645-3337
Recreation and Park Programs.....	Phone: 645-3333 (message)
Refuse Collection.....	Phone: 645-TRSH (8774)
Senior Citizen Information.....	Phone: 645-7250
Sewer and Drain 24 Hour Repair.....	Phone: 645-7102
Sidewalk Complaints/Permits.....	Phone: 645-7497
Snow and Ice Complaints.....	Phone: 645-5660
Street and Highway Closings.....	Phone: 645-PAVE (7283)
Street Light Repair.....	Phone: 645-7627
Street Repair.....	Phone: 645-5660
Tools (loaner service for home repairs).....	Phone: 645-8542
Traffic Lights and Signs.....	Phone: 645-7393
Traffic Violations/Payment.....	Phone: 645-8166
Trash Collection/Bulk Pickup.....	Phone: 645-TRSH (8774)
Volunteer Corps.....	Phone: 645-6404
Water Customer Service (Mon. - Fri 7 am - 6 pm).....	Phone: 645-8270
Water (24 hour repair).....	Phone: 645-7788
Water Quality Questions.....	Phone: 645-7691
Weed and Environment Complaints.....	Phone: 645-8191
Zoning Information.....	Phone: 645-7314
All Other Calls.....	Phone: 645-8100

## **Goals & Objectives Summary**

*(Compiled from the 1994 Northeast Area Plan and the 1999 Community Workshop)*

Environmental Protection (Coordinate with Mitigation Plan & Greenways Plan)

**Goal:** Protect, enhance and restore the scenic character of Northeast area roadways

- Objectives:**
- a. Create a scenic byway overlay for Sunbury Road
  - b. Install new trees and protect existing trees along roadways and arterials to beautify highways
  - c. Encourage a pleasing view from the highway when development occurs along the interstate system
  - d. Establish an Adopt-A-Park (or neighborhood) litter clean up program

**Goal:** Restore and preserve Alum Creek

- Objectives:**
- a. Conserve open space for its natural and recreational value, especially along the banks of Alum Creek
  - b. Protect Alum Creek through dedication of land, scenic walkways and easements
  - c. Preserve heavily wooded lots
  - d. Increase awareness with signage, education and safety programs (e.g., Alum Creek Appreciation Day)
  - e. Adopt protective zoning along Alum Creek and tributaries

**Goal:** Protect the environmental quality in the community

- Objectives:**
- a. Preserve heavily wooded lots
  - b. Discourage ecologically and environmentally hazardous uses
  - c. Protect high quality wetlands
  - d. Encourage developers to donate land (or money) to purchase land for open space and/or parkland
  - e. Develop “green space” definitions for neighborhoods that describe desirable open space fields, tree-lined areas, forests, and reserves, and require implementation in all new development

**Goal:** Improve Alum Creek’s water quality for recreational use

- Objectives:**
- a. Establish an Adopt-A-Creek (or neighborhood) litter clean up program
  - b. Promote the transition from individual septic systems to City sewer system
  - c. Promote conservation landscaping

**Goal:** Protect and preserve wildlife and its habitat

- Objectives:**
- a. Preserve heavily wooded lots
  - b. Adopt protective zoning along Alum Creek and its tributaries
  - c. Protect high quality wetlands
  - d. Increase resident's awareness to wildlife and its habitat with educational signage and programs

**Goal:** Protect and enhance natural drainage ways (tributaries to Alum Creek)

- Objectives:**
- a. Adopt protective zoning along Alum Creek's tributaries
  - b. Discourage developers from "filling in" or piping tributaries/natural drainage ways
  - c. Install native trees, grasses and wildflowers along the banks of tributaries/natural drainage ways
  - d. Encourage a "Name That Tributary" game with local residents, schools and businesses
  - e. Install signage with name of tributary to increase awareness

#### Recreation & Parks (Coordinate with Recreation Plan)

**Goal:** Develop facilities to accommodate the needs of the community

- Objectives:**
- a. Install a swimming pool near the recreation center
  - b. Support recreational activities (take a needs assessment)
  - c. Expand the Northeast Recreation Center
  - d. Build a fully functioning, multi-sports facility with programs dedicated to youth and seniors
  - e. Renovate the Mifflin Middle School stadium and surrounding campus

**Goal:** Develop adequate and appropriate parkland (for both passive and active uses)

- Objectives:**
- a. Encourage developers to donate land and/or money to the city to buy land for parkland dedication within the community
  - b. Connect parkland together with sidewalks and/or bike paths
  - c. Reserve land for park development
  - d. Further develop parkland towards Innis Road
  - e. Develop parkland in residential areas
  - f. Provide public access to Alum Creek
  - g. Develop a linear multi-use trail along Alum Creek connecting community parks and learning centers

#### Historical

**Goal:** Preserve the history of the area and increase residents' awareness

- Objectives:**
- a. Create a museum of community history
  - b. Develop a partnership with the Ohio Historical Society
  - c. Encourage restoration in place of demolition of historically significant assets
  - d. Establish a historically minded non-profit entity
  - e. Promote the preservation of Underground Railroad homes

#### Area Identity/Creating A Sense of Community:

**Goal:** Develop an identity and sense of community

- Objectives:**
- a. Establish community name
  - b. Foster relationships between community groups

**Goal:** Develop effective community communication tools

- Objectives:**
- a. Create and distribute a community newspaper
  - b. Encourage coordination between the city and county on community issues (e.g., zoning)
  - c. Build better interchurch communication
  - d. Create the FONE Network Northeast (“Federation of Neighborhood Entities”) network in the Northeast area
  - e. Assure each neighborhood is represented on applicable committees
  - f. Provide information to residents concerning the responsibilities of the fire stations that serve the area

**Goal:** Establish uniform standards to improve the visual appearance of primary roads

- Objectives:**
- a. Plant street trees and landscaping
  - b. Limit curb cuts and add curbs and sidewalks
  - c. Signage should be uniform and billboards should be banned

**Goal:** Increase community participation

- Objectives:**
- a. Encourage collaboration between churches
  - b. Increase church participation in community
  - c. Increase community action activities through job fairs and service referrals (CAMACO, Food Pantries, etc.)
  - d. Develop non-denominational recreation facilities
  - e. Support and organize community festivals that encourage diversity and promote safe, drug free and crime free communities

### Residential

**Goal:** Encourage the maintenance and rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family dwellings

- Objectives:**
- a. Provide and/or promote low-interest loans for rehabilitation efforts
  - b. Complete the area's unfinished subdivisions with similarly styled housing units
  - c. Provide and/or promote incentives for homeowners to maintain their properties (e.g., lawn awards, Columbus tool loan and technical assistance program)
  - d. Facilitate establishment of public/private partnerships that can produce funding for housing production, preservation, and home ownership
  - e. Provide incentives for purchase and rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family housing units for owner-occupancy

**Goal:** Encourage high quality housing

- Objectives:**
- a. Discourage the construction of subsidized housing
  - b. Encourage the construction of low-density market rate housing
  - c. Discourage spot zoning of multi-family and commercial developments
  - d. Assure that all homes have basic amenities that allow for the improvement and maintenance of property values
  - e. Require new multifamily to “blend” with single-family in single-family neighborhoods in appearance and scale

**Goal:** Establish and ensure compatible zoning for the area

**Objectives:**

- a. Rezone undeveloped areas to classifications that accommodate recommended land uses
- b. Encourage coordination between the city, county and communities in regard to zoning matters
- c. Protect residential uses from encroachment by incompatible uses
- d. Establish close ties with the Environmental Court

### Commercial

**Goal:** Provide neighborhood scale commercial to serve needs of local community

**Objectives:**

- a. Encourage development of community scale retail at highly used intersections
- b. Identify areas appropriate for neighborhood scale development
- c. Assess the need and viability for local commercial uses (e.g., market study)

**Goal:** Encourage redevelopment of vacant commercial sites

**Objective:**

- a. Rezone undeveloped areas to classifications that accommodate recommended land uses

**Goal:** Establish commercial development standards

**Objectives:**

- a. Encourage mixed use development
- b. Encourage transitional uses where appropriate (e.g., create buffers between land uses)

### Industrial

**Goal:** Encourage light industrial development (LID) in appropriate areas

**Goal:** Discourage ecologically and environmentally hazardous uses

**Goal:** Establish industrial development standards

**Objectives:**

- a. Support light industrial development (LID) that provides adequate buffering from residential uses
- b. Support LID that incorporate guidelines consistent with I-670 corridor design guidelines

**Goal:** Encourage redevelopment of vacant industrial sites

**Objective:**

- a. Rezone undeveloped areas to classifications that accommodate recommended land uses



## Education

**Goal:** Ensure learning opportunities are assessable to all residents

- Objectives:**
- a. Advocate for the Columbus Public Library System to build a library in the community
  - b. Request the public library to provide book mobile or satellite services to community residents
  - c. Identify school sites for future use
  - d. Develop a computer center
  - e. Develop partnerships between Columbus Public Schools, Columbus School for Girls, Northeast Career Center, Ohio Dominican College, and the Northeast community

**Goal:** Ensure each student has the opportunity to become academically competitive, nationally and internationally

- Objectives:**
- a. Encourage students to stay in school and graduate
  - b. All students pass the 9th grade proficiency test before 11th grade
  - c. Ensure that curriculum content is equivalent to suburban schools
  - d. Student SAT/ACT scores are competitive for college
  - e. Leading edge technology is available in all Northeast Area schools
  - f. Establish a literacy program
  - g. Establish academic support services

**Goal:** Increase resident participation in advocacy and social activities that enhance academic instruction

- Objectives:**
- a. Community residents are well-informed advocates at Columbus School Board meetings
  - b. Linkages are coordinated between churches and businesses that build academic capacity for the students
  - c. More community residents are involved with social activities at the Northeast Area schools
  - d. Provide advocacy-training resources to parents to improve communication between parents and school personnel
  - e. Communicate information on continuing education, training, and other learning resources through NEAC periodicals and website

## Economic Development

**Goal:** Provide economic development assistance for the community

- Objectives:**
- a. Facilitate private-public partnerships to foster neighborhood economic development
  - b. Promote redevelopment of existing commercial sites in place of demolition or the build out of open space areas
  - c. Increase procurement opportunities for neighborhood businesses
  - d. Recruit and retain businesses that serve the neighborhood
  - e. Assess the need and viability for local commercial uses (e.g., market study)

**Goal:** Increase and provide incentives to create job opportunities for community residents

**Objectives:**

- a. Attract manufacturing uses that bring new jobs into the community
- b. Increase job opportunities for local youths and young adults

**Goal:** Increase entrepreneurial opportunities for residents

**Objectives:**

- a. Establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information on business opportunities
- b. Establish an office to assist and promote business development
- c. Identify contracting opportunities with large commercial companies
- d. Establish a neighborhood business association

#### Public Safety:

**Goal:** Provide adequate emergency services for community residents

**Objectives:**

- a. Request more police cruisers throughout the area
- b. Expand police and fire services as the area grows in population
- c. Provide adequate emergency medical equipment closely located to area residents
- d. Provide better coordination among the city and township fire stations
- e. Encourage additional police substations

**Goal:** Establish a community-policing program

**Objective:**

- a. Implement proven models for safe neighborhood strategies

#### Public Infrastructure – Circulation/Roadways Subsection:

**Goal:** Create better circulation to accommodate traffic flow

**Objectives:**

- a. Assess the level of safety and congestion of community roadways
- b. Assess the origin, destination, and type of vehicular traffic
- c. Install traffic signals where needed
- d. Upgrade roadways where needed
- e. Establish a circulation plan

#### Public Transportation Subsection

**Goal:** Provide better access to public transportation

**Objectives:**

- a. Provide park and ride stops strategically located within the community convenient to all residents
- b. Coordinate with Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) to ensure adequate access to local buses
- c. Encourage COTA neighborhood circulator buses

### Pedestrian Access Subsection

**Goal:** Provide safe pedestrian access along roadways

- Objectives:**
- a. Safety crossing/bridge for pedestrians to and from schools and recreation facilities
  - b. Provide sidewalks throughout the entire area (critical areas are bus stops, schools and shopping areas, Westerville Road and golf course)
  - c. Create PATHS Northeast (Pedestrian Access To Hot Spots in the Northeast Area): Provide pedestrian pathways and bicycle access linking neighborhoods, parks, green spaces, Alum Creek, shopping, schools, libraries, recreation facilities, and other nearby amenities

### Water and Sewer Subsection

**Goal:** Provide water and sewer services to community residents

- Objectives:**
- a. Extend water lines to provide service to all homes located in the area
  - b. Extend sanitary sewer lines to provide service to all homes and undeveloped land within the community

**Goal:** Address issues arising from storm water run-off

- Objectives:**
- a. Discourage future development (industrial, residential or commercial) to occur within the floodplain
  - b. Require retention basins/ponds and sediment and erosion control measures to collect run-off from subdivisions and parking lots (during and after construction)
  - c. Assess the impact of eliminating open ditches for storm water management

**Goal:** Coordinate water and sewer upgrades with major roadway improvements

### Street Lighting Subsection

**Goal:** Provide adequate illumination throughout the community

- Objectives:**
- a. Install street lights in a consistent pattern and design throughout the residential community
  - b. Ensure that developers furnish streetlights in subdivisions, and that the City retains operation and maintenance responsibility

### Other Community Needs

**Goal:** Encourage community recycling